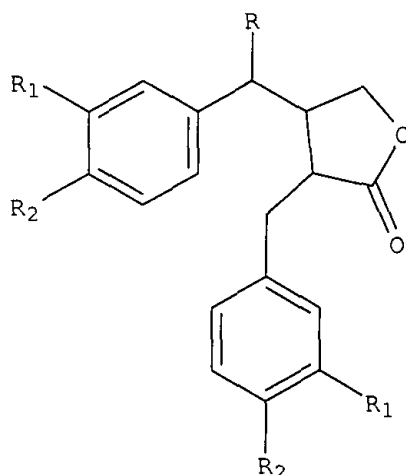


AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION

Page 4, Paragraph 20

A<sub>1</sub> [0020] Thus, according to one aspect, this invention relates to a method of inhibiting the overactivity of phagocytes or lymphocytes in an individual by administering to said individual an effective amount of a lignan, wherein said lignan has the formula



wherein R is H or OH when R<sub>1</sub> is OCH<sub>3</sub> and R<sub>2</sub> is OH or R is H when R<sub>1</sub> is OH and R<sub>2</sub> is H,  
wherein said lignan is hydroxymatairesinol when R is OH, R<sub>1</sub> is OCH<sub>3</sub> and R<sub>2</sub> is OH, or is  
matairesinol when R is H, R<sub>1</sub> is OCH<sub>3</sub> and R<sub>2</sub> is OH or is enterolactone when R is H, R<sub>1</sub> is OH and  
R<sub>2</sub> is H, and

wherein

i) the phagocytes are neutrophils and the lignan is hydroxymatairesinol or matairesinol or mixtures thereof, or

ii) the phagocytes are cells of myeloid origin and the lignan is enterolactone or hydroxymatairesinol or mixtures thereof, or

iii) the lymphocytes are T-lymphocytes and the lignan is hydroxymatairesinol, matairesinol

*or enterolactone or mixtures thereof.*

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